

Message Text

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TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, H. A.)

SUBJECT: MORNING REPORT, SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 43

NEWSPAPERS

1. NYT(GWERTZMAN): EGYPT CONCURRED WITH ISRAEL THAT PRESENCE OF US TECHNICIANS IN SINAI PASSES VITAL TO SUCCESS OF NEW INTERIM AGREEMENT. BASHIR TOLD REPORTERS IDEA OF U.S. TECHNICIANS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE PROJECTED ACCORD. ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF CONGRESS REFUSED TO APPROVE PRESENCE OF TECHNICIANS, BASHIR, CLEARLY URGING CONGRESS TO GO ALONG WITH PLAN, SAID IT WAS PREMATURE TO WORRY ABOUT THIS, BUT SAID "MY OWN FEELING IS THAT THE U.S. WANTS TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PEACE IN THE AREA." (BASHIR STATEMENT ALSO IN WASH POST, BERGER ARTICLE.)

AMERICAN OFFICIALS WERE PLEASED BY BASHIR'S STATEMENT, WHICH, THEY SAID, REFLECTED SADAT'S VIEWS. THEY BELIEVED THAT WITH EGYPTIANS, ISRAELIS AND ADMINISTRATION ALL BACKING PRESENCE OF TECHNICIANS, CONGRESS WOULD GIVE APPROVAL.
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REPORTERS ON SECRETARY'S PLANE TOLD ACCORD COULD CONCEIVABLY BE INITIALED MONDAY BUT IF SECRETARY CAN'T GET AGREEMENT ON FINAL TEXT DURING SUNDAY SHUTTLE IT MAY BE DELAYED UNTIL TUESDAY. DETAILS OF MILITARY PROTOCOL AND LEVEL OF

POLITICAL REPRESENTATION FOR INITIALING AND LATER SIGNING IN GENERAL IS AMONG ISSUES STILL UNDECIDED. ISRAELIS WANT A HIGH RANKING POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY LEADER TO STRESS POLITICAL ASPECTS. EGYPTIANS PREFER TO HAVE A LOW LEVEL POLITICAL FIGURE SIGN...

ACCORD IS SUPPORTED BY A LONG MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAEL OUTLINING US COMMITMENTS TO COMPENSATE ISRAEL FOR WITHDRAWALS. "THESE INCLUDE SYMPATHETIC HANDLING OF ISRAEL'S \$3.6 BILLION AID REQUEST, WHICH ADMINISTRATION WILL PROBABLY REDUCE TO \$2.4 BILLION FOR SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS, GUARANTEES OF OIL SUPPLIES TO REPLACE ABU RUDEIS OIL AND COOPERATION ON DIPLOMATIC STEPS IN ME.

U.S. WILL ALSO END ITS FREEZE ON SALE OF NEW MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL. BUT ISRAELIS ARE PLACING MOST IMPORTANCE ON SMALL BUT SYMBOLICALLY IMPORTANT PRESENCE OF AMERICANS IN SINAI PASSES.

ON KISSINGER'S AF JET FLYING TO EGYPT THIS MORNING, REPORTERS WERE TOLD THAT IF CONGRESS DID NOT APPROVE AMERICAN PRESENCE, ISRAEL WOULD NOT BE OBLIGED TO CARRY OUT TERMS OF AGREEMENT.

NEWSMEN ALSO WERE TOLD THAT PROVISIONS WERE BEING WRITTEN TO ALLOW WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICANS UNDER CONDITION OF IMMINENT WAR."

2. WASH POST (BERGER): EGYPT ADDED ITS APPEAL TO THAT OF ISRAEL IN CALLING ON U.S. CONGRESS TO APPROVE STATIONING OF TECHNICIANS. "UNANIMITY ON NEED FOR AMERICAN TECHNICIANS WAS APPARENTLY NOT REFLECTED IN REST OF NEGOTIATIONS. TECHNICAL TALKS HAVE DRAGGED ON AND FORCED SECSTATE KISSINGER TO POSTPONE HIS DEPARTURE FOR HOME."

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SECRETARY DISCUSSED TECHNICAL ANNEXES FOR 3 HOURS WITH SADAT AND AFTERWARDS SAID THEY INVOLVED "GREAT TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY" AND DISCUSSIONS WERE THEREFORE TIME CONSUMING.

REPORTERS WERE TOLD THAT UNLIKE ISRAEL, EGYPT HAS NOT MADE STATIONING OF TECHNICIANS A CONDITION FOR IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT. FOR ISRAELIS A SENIOR OFFICIAL SAID IMPLEMENTATION IS CONDITIONAL ON CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. WITHOUT THAT APPROVAL AN OFFICIAL SAID "WE'LL HAVE A MESS".

ISRAEL AND EGYPT AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS NOW UNDER WAY, SAY THEY EXPECT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. BUT OFFICIALS CONCEDED TO REPORTERS TRAVELING WITH HAK ON ROUND TRIP TO ALEXANDRIA TODAY THAT ADMINI-

STRATION HAS HAD CONSULTATIONS ON A SPORADIC BASIS ONLY. BECAUSE OF RECESS, IT IS SAID, THERE HAS NOT BEEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SYSTEMATIC CANVASSING.

HOWEVER, OFFICIALS IN BOTH ISRAEL AND EGYPT CONFIRMED TODAY THAT TECHNICIANS IDEA HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR AT LEAST THREE MONTHS, IN TWO OF WHICH CONGRESS WAS IN SESSION.

IN ALEXANDRIA, OFFICIALS SAID IDEA WAS FIRST PUT FORWARD BY SADAT IN HIS JUNE 1-2 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD IN SALZBURG. SADAT WAS PROPOSING THEN THAT SOLELY AMERICANS MAN EARLY WARNING STATIONS IN SINAI FOR BOTH SIDES.

THIS WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO ISRAELIS, WHO PROPOSED JOINT MANNING -- WITH ISRAELIS AND AMERICANS AT SOME INSTALLATIONS, AND, IF EGYPTIANS INSISTED, A SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT FOR THEM. ISRAELI OFFICIALS SAID THIS PROPOSAL WAS PRESENTED TO HAK JULY 2 WHEN ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DINITZ MADE A SECRET VISIT TO VIRGIN ISLAND WHERE HAK WAS VACATIONING. ..."

..."ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS APPARENT THAT HAK ALL ALONG ENVISAGED SOME KIND OF AMERICAN PRESENCE, CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS STARTED ONLY IN AUGUST, JUST BEFORE SECRETARY TOOK OFF FOR WHAT IS MEANT TO BE FINAL STAGE OF TALKS LEADING TO AN AGREEMENT." ...
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..."EN ROUTE TO ALEXANDRIA REPORTERS WERE URGED NOT TO ASK QUESTIONS OF SADAT THAT WOULD BLOW UP AGREEMENT. THERE IS CONCERN THAT IF EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT IS ASKED TO DISCUSS TOO MUCH BEFORE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED THERE IS A CHANCE HE MAY BE EMBARRASSED IN REST OF ARAB WORLD AND PULL BACK.

U.S. SPOKESMAN ANDERSON TODAY RUSHED OFF HELICOPTER AS IT LANDED AT SADAT'S OCEANSIDE RESIDENCE AND HAD A FEW WORDS WITH HIS COUNTERPART, BASHIR, AND BASHIR APPEARED TO SEND WORD TO SADAT. THEN SADAT AND HAK SAT DOWN FOR PHOTOGRAPHS BUT SADAT REFUSED TO FOLLOW HIS USUAL CUSTOM OF ANSWERING QUESTIONS POSED BY REPORTERS...."

WIRES

UPI (GROWALD): SADAT SAID SUNDAY ISRAELIS "ARE ALWAYS RAISING HELL" AND MAY HAVE DELAYED AGREEMENT ON AN INTERIM SINAI PEACE SETTLEMENT.

HIS PRESS SECRETARY, BASHIR, AND A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL TOLD REPORTERS IT IS VERY POSSIBLE DOCUMENT WILL BE INITIALED WITHIN 36 HOURS.

...WHEN ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY HAK'S LATEST EFFORTS MAY FAIL, SADAT CITED SECRETARY'S VAIN ATTEMPT IN MARCH TO ARRANGE AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT. "AS HAPPENED DURING LAST MISSION, IT MAY COME TO THIS, BUT NOT FROM EGYPTIAN POINT OF VIEW", SADAT SAID.

"WE ARE QUITE READY AND WE ARE QUITE UNDERSTANDING," HE SAID, BUT ADDED HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR ISRAELIS.

HAK WAS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO JERUSALEM AFTER HIS TALKS WITH SADAT. MONDAY, FOLLOWING A SPECIAL ISRAELI CABINET MEETING TO ASSESS NEGOTIATIONS, HAK MAY HAVE BOTH EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI AGREEMENT, DIPLOMATS SAID.

THE (SIC) SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL TOLD REPORTERS IT IS HIGHLY IMPROBABLE DOCUMENT WILL BE INITIALED MONDAY ALTHOUGH IT WAS POSSIBLE. HE SAID TUESDAY WAS A MORE LIKELY DATE.
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IN ANY CASE, OFFICIAL SAID, KISSINGER WOULD BE BACK IN WASHINGTON, THURSDAY MORNING.

SADAT SAID "WE ARE TRYING TO DO OUR BEST TO REACH AN AGREEMENT. DR. KISSINGER IS DOING HIS BEST, AND AS I TOLD YOU BEFORE, HE IS HONEST AND TIRELESS.

"IN THIS AGREEMENT THERE ARE VERY BIG TECHNICAL DETAILS, IN WHOLE THING. THAT'S WHY DR. KISSINGER IS DOING HIS BEST TO TRY AND SOLVE THESE TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES."

THE SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL SAID DETAILS WERE DELAYING AGREEMENT. HE TOLD REPORTERS BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE STRETCHED TO LIMIT TO AGREE AND DANGER WAS THAT ONE MORE BIT OF STRETCHING COULD BE STRAW THAT BREAKS CAMEL'S BACK AND COLLAPSES NEGOTIATIONS.

HOWEVER, OFFICIAL SAID ODDS ARE OVERWHELMING IN FAVOR OF AGREEMENT.

OFFICIAL SAID ONE REMAINING SNAG LIES IN MILITARY ANNEX TO PACT. ANNEXES LIST PRINCIPLES GUIDING IMPLEMENTATION

OF SETTLEMENT.

KISSINGER WAS EXPECTED TO VISIT SAUDI ARABIA AND JORDAN AND POSSIBLY REVISIT DAMASCUS -- HIS ONLY OTHER STOP DURING ELEVEN DAYS OF SHUTTling BETWEEN ALEXANDRIA AND JERUSALEM -- IF AGREEMENT WAS REACHED.

KISSINGER WANTED TO GET HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER AGREEMENT TO HELP CONVINCE CONGRESS TO APPROVE WHAT MAY BE KEY ELEMENT IN PACT -- A PROVISION FOR AMERICAN

CIVILIAN VOLUNTEERS TO MAN EARLY WARNING STATIONS IN NEW
SINAI BUFFER ZONE.

BEFORE FLYING TO ALEXANDRIA, HAK MET WITH ISRAELI LEADERS
FOR 4 HOURS SUNDAY TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF INTERIM AGREE-
MENT.

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"THERE IS AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF VERY PRECISE DETAILS",
HE TOLD REPORTERS OUTSIDE OFFICE OF PM RABIN.

"WE HAVE BEEN GOING OVER AGREEMENT AND ITS ANNEXES;
ESPECIALLY ANNEXES... WE DID IT WITH ATTITUDE OF BRINGING
NEGOTIATIONS TO A CONCLUSION," HE SAID.

"I HOPE THAT ON MY VISIT TO ALEXANDRIA WE CAN CLEAR UP
REMAINING DIFFERENCE." INGERSOLL

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